



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroshi AOKI *et al.*
Title: PASSENGER DISCRIMINATING
APPARATUS
Appl. No.: 09/778,861
Filed: February 8, 2001
Examiner: Faye M. FLEMING
Art Unit: 3618

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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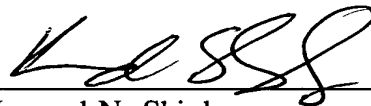
The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits but before the mailing date of a final action under §1.113. The required fee in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is attached.

The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609). For the Examiner's convenience an English abstract has been provided for the A3 document.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/30/2002

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